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REVIEWS AND NOTICES OF BOOKS.

V. BINDI. *Monumenti storici ed artistici degli Abruzzi*. 225 plates in fol., Text, 8vo, pp. xxxvi, 966. Naples, 1889; Giannini. 200 francs.

The importance of the monuments illustrated by the phototype plates of the album is not by any means approached by the quality of the text. The province of the Abruzzi is one of the richest in mediæval monuments in Italy and had been known thus far mainly from Schulz's work *Die Kunst des Mittelalters in Unteritalien*, which contains considerable, but very abbreviated, descriptive matter and little illustration for this part of Southern Italy. The Abruzzi is especially notable for its monuments of the XII, XIII, and XIV centuries, and, although the influence of the South is predominant, that of the neighboring Roman province is often noticeable, here and there, even as far as the Adriatic coast, where, at Teramo, a Roman artist erected the porch of the cathedral. A work on the plan of this by Bindi is much needed and there is still room for it, because, though he has made for some years a specialty of this province and has published several preliminary works, his method is unscientific and he lacks the most essential qualification for the work—a knowledge of the general history of mediæval art. He approaches as near to an antiquarian of the old type as a dilettante can. Still, his work is a vast encyclopædia of documents and information, to be used with caution, and his plates will be of great use to more scientific students. We only wish to warn students to place no confidence in his transcripts of inscriptions. They are to the last degree inaccurate.—A. L. FROTHINGHAM, JR.

C. A. DE CARA. *Gli Hyksôs*. Roma ; i Lincei.

Dr. de Cara has devoted a sumptuous volume to one of the most interesting but most obscure periods in ancient history, that of the rule of the Hyksôs, or shepherd-kings, in Egypt. For more than five hundred years Northern Egypt was ruled by strangers who had conquered the country, but after a time had themselves been conquered by the culture and spirit of the Egyptian race. Nevertheless, they never became amalgamated with that race. Their rule was borne with sullen hatred ; and, at last, a long and obstinate war broke out between them and the native princes of Thebes, which ended in the expulsion of the foreigner, the rise of the XVIII dynasty, and the prosecution of a war of vengeance in that Asia from which the Hyksôs invaders had originally come.

Dr. de Cara, in his elaborate book, puts together all that is ascertained in regard to the Hyksôs, criticises the theories that have been propounded on their behalf, and suggests a theory of his own. Nothing that has been published on the subject seems to have escaped his notice. His learning is catholic; and he quotes French and English as well as German authors. His own view is that the Hyksôs represented a confederacy of various Asiatic tribes under the leadership of the northern Syrians. That their ruling class came from this part of the world seems clear from the name of their supreme god Sutekh, who occupied among them the position of the Shemitic Baal. Not only was Sutekh the name of the Hittite god, as we learn from the monuments of Ramses II, but one of the cities of Northern Syria commemorated by Thothmes III, at Karnak, was Sathekh-beg, in which Mr. Tomkins is plainly right in seeing the name of Sutekh. It is only strange that the name is not found in the Old Testament or in a Phœnician inscription. Dr. de Cara, who identifies the Hyksôs stronghold Avaris with Pelusium, connects the name of the latter with the Shemitic word which has given us the name of the Falashas in Ethiopia, and perhaps of the Philistines in Asia. It would mean the town of the "wanderers." The etymology is ingenious, and is supported by the Egyptian equivalent of Pelusium. It may be that it will yet be verified when the ancient "key of Egypt" has been subjected to the spade of the excavator.—A. H. SAYCE, in *Academy*, Sept. 20.

CH. DIEHL. *Excursions Archéologiques en Grèce*. 12mo, pp. x, 388. Paris, 1890; Armand, Colin et Cie.

This little volume, by an old member of the French Schools at Rome and Athens, who is now in charge of the course of archæology at the University at Nancy, makes no pretension to erudite research. It is not a record of M. Diehl's own travels, but a popular compendium of recent scientific exploration and excavation in Greece. He conducts the reader through Mykenai, Tiryns, Dodona, Athens, Delos, Olympia, Eleusis, Epidauros, Tanagra and the temple of Apollon Ptoïos. This is an interesting and fruitful method of approaching the subject, as it throws light upon many different phases of Greek life, both early and late, and brings the reader into contact with the results of the most recent research. The bibliographical references at the beginning of each chapter are most useful. In French handbooks for popular use one frequently finds a disregard of German work. Not so in the present volume. German and modern Greek sources of information are freely utilized. The style is not sufficiently attractive to hold securely the reader's attention, nor is the book sufficiently systematic for use as a text-book. It is directed rather to the